



CMDCM(SS) Kirk Saunders
Command Master Chief, Submarine Squadron Eleven



Master Chief Saunders was born in Birmingham, Ala. He entered the Navy in July 1987. He attended recruit training in San Diego, Basic Submarine School in Groton, Conn., and Torpedoman Class A School in Orlando, Fla.

His first submarine assignment was aboard USS Richard B. Russell (SSN 687) in Mare Island, Calif., where he qualified in submarines and earned the Silver Dolphins. Other sea tours included USS NORFOLK (SSN 714) where he served as Torpedo Division LCPO and Combat Systems Department Enlisted Advisor and USS BOISE (SSN 764) where he served as Chief of the Boat.

His first shore tour assignment was at Navy Recruiting District Miami, Fla., where he served as a production recruiter and Recruiter in Charge and advanced to the rank of chief petty officer. Other shore tours included duty on the staff of Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic Fleet where he served as the Senior Enlisted Advisor and Weapons Evaluator on the Tactical Readiness Evaluation Team.

Saunders is a graduate of the Senior Enlisted Academy Class 112 (Blue) and the Command Master Chief/Chief of the Boat Course.

In July 2007, Saunders relieved as the eighth Command Master Chief of Submarine Squadron Eleven in San Diego, Calif.

He is entitled to wear the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards), Navy Good Conduct Medal (five awards), and other unit and campaign awards.